

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 6 and 7, 16, 17, 26, 27 and 32, and add new Claims 36 to 38 as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject application, now read as follows:

1. to 5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently amended) An information processing apparatus for having a printer driver which generates print data to be printed at a printing apparatus using ~~a plurality of pages of~~ drawing data output ~~input~~ from an application, comprising:

entry means for entering ~~at least one of~~ information indicating the number of division via a setting screen to divide a physical page ~~an output sheet and output sheet~~ ~~information about an output sheet to be used for printing via a setting screen of a printer driver,~~ in executing N-page printing in which drawing data of N pages ( $N > 1$ , N is an integer) is printed on the physical page which is a face of one print sheet;

~~physical N-page printing~~ arranging means for dividing the ~~[[a]]~~ physical page into N areas using the information indicating the number of division to divide the physical page and for arranging the drawing data of each page at ~~a center of each of equal~~ N-divided areas of the physical page, ~~wherein, if a physical sheet of the physical page is cut into N pieces of sheet, the print result of each page is arranged at the center of one piece of cut sheet;~~

first control means for controlling an arranging processing executed by said arranging means so that an internal margin between two of a plurality of drawing data arranged by said arranging means is larger than a print margin between the drawing data and an edge of the physical page;

~~printable area N page printing arranging means for dividing a printable area, which is obtained by subtracting a print margin from the physical page, into N printable areas and for arranging the drawing data of each page in each of equal N divided printable areas of the printable area on the physical page, wherein the print results of the drawing data of each page in printing N pages are arranged toward the center of the physical sheet;~~

~~deciding determining means for deciding whether determining which one of said first control means is executed based on physical N page printing arranging means and said printable region N page printing arranging means is employed to execute processing for arranging the pages on the basis of at least one of the information indicating the number of division and output sheet information entered via the setting screen of the printer driver by said entry means, in a case where a print request occurs for the designation of N page printing; and~~

~~generation means for generating the print data using an arranging result by executing the determined one of said physical N page printing arranging means and said printable region N page printing arranging means.~~

7. (Currently amended) An information processing apparatus according to Claim 6, further comprising condition acquiring means for acquiring a physical N-page printing condition,

wherein said ~~deciding determining~~ means decides ~~determines~~, based on the physical N-page printing condition acquired by said condition acquiring means, whether said first controlling means is to be executed ~~which one of said physical N page printing arranging means and said printable region N page printing arranging means is employed to execute processing for arranging the pages.~~

8. (Original) An information processing apparatus according to Claim 7, wherein said physical N-page printing condition is information indicating which one of plural types of N-page printing is set to physical N-page printing.

9. (Previously presented) An information processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said determining means determines, in a case where said output sheet information indicates 4-zone post card which is premised that a printed sheet is cut into N-sheets, to employ said physical N-page printing arranging means.

10. (Original) An information processing apparatus according to Claim 7, wherein said condition acquiring means acquires said physical N-page printing condition from an external device.

11. to 15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently amended) A printing control method of having a printer driver which generates print data to be printed at a printing apparatus using ~~a plurality of pages of~~ drawing data output input from an application, comprising the steps of:  
an entry step of entering ~~at least one of~~ information indicating the number of division via a setting screen to divide a physical page ~~an output sheet and output sheet~~ information about an output sheet to be used for printing via a setting screen of a printer driver, in executing N-page printing in which drawing data of N pages ( $N > 1$ , N is an integer) is printed on the physical page which is a face of one print sheet;

~~an a physical N page printing~~ arranging step of dividing ~~the [[a]]~~ physical page into N areas using the information indicating the number of division to divide the physical page and of arranging the drawing data of each page at ~~a center of each of equal N-divided areas of the~~ physical page, wherein, if a physical sheet of the physical page is cut into N pieces of sheet, the print result of each page is arranged at the center of one piece of cut sheet;

a first control step of controlling an arranging processing executed in said  
arranging step so that an internal margin between two of a plurality of drawing data arranged in  
said arranging step is larger than a print margin between the drawing data and an edge of the  
physical page;

~~a printable area N page printing~~ arranging step of dividing a printable area, which is obtained by subtracting a print margin from the physical page, into N printable areas and ~~arranging the drawing data of each page in each of equal N divided printable areas of the~~ printable area on the physical page, wherein the print results of the drawing data of each page in printing N pages are arranged toward the center of the physical sheet;

a deciding step of deciding whether said first control step is executed based on  
~~a determining step of determining which one of said physical N page printing arranging step and~~  
~~said printable region N page printing~~ arranging step is employed to execute processing for ~~arranging the pages on the basis of at least one of the information indicating the number of~~  
~~division and output sheet information entered via the setting screen of the printer driver in said~~  
~~entry step, in a case where a print request occurs for the designation of N page printing; and~~

a generation step of generating the print data using an arranging result in by ~~executing the determined one of said physical N page printing arranging step and said printable~~  
~~region N page printing~~ arranging step.

17. (Currently amended) A printing control method according to Claim 16, further comprising a condition acquiring step of acquiring a physical N-page printing condition, wherein said ~~deciding~~ ~~determining~~ step decides ~~determines~~, based on the physical N-page printing condition acquired in said condition acquiring step, whether said first controlling step is to be executed ~~which one of said physical N-page printing arranging step and said printable region N-page printing arranging step is employed to execute processing for arranging the pages.~~

18. (Original) A printing control method according to Claim 17, wherein said physical N-page printing condition is information indicating which one of plural types of N-page printing is set to physical N-page printing.

19. (Previously presented) A printing control method according to Claim 16, wherein said determining means determines, in a case where said output sheet information indicates 4-zone post card which is premised that a printed sheet is cut into N-sheets, to employ said physical N-page printing arranging step.

20. (Original) An information processing method according to Claim 17, wherein said condition acquiring step acquires said physical N-page printing condition from an external device.

21. to 25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently amended) A printing control program stored on a computer-readable medium and executed in a printing control device for having a printer driver which generates print data to be printed at a printing apparatus using ~~a plurality of pages of drawing data~~ output input from an application, the printing control program including the steps of:

an entry step of entering ~~at least one of~~ information indicating the number of division via a setting screen to divide a physical page ~~an output sheet and output sheet~~ ~~information about an output sheet to be used for printing via a setting screen of a printer driver,~~ in executing N-page printing in which drawing data of N pages ( $N > 1$ , N is an integer) is printed on the physical page which is a face of one print sheet;

~~an a physical N-page printing~~ arranging step of dividing the ~~[[a]]~~ physical page into N areas using the information indicating the number of division to divide the physical page and of arranging the drawing data of each page at ~~a center of each of equal~~ N-divided areas of the physical page, wherein, ~~if a physical sheet of the physical page is cut into N pieces of sheet, the print result of each page is arranged at the center of one piece of cut sheet;~~

a first control step of controlling an arranging processing executed in said arranging step so that an internal margin between two of a plurality of drawing data arranged in said arranging step is larger than a print margin between the drawing data and an edge of the physical page;

~~a printable area N-page printing~~ arranging step of dividing ~~a printable area, which is obtained by subtracting a print margin from the physical page, into N printable areas and~~ arranging the drawing data of each page in each of equal N divided printable areas of the ~~printable area on the physical page, wherein the print results of the drawing data of each page in~~ printing N pages are arranged toward the center of the physical sheet by scaling down;

a deciding step of deciding whether said first control step is executed based on  
~~determining step of determining which one of said physical N page printing arranging step and~~  
~~said printable region N page printing arranging step is employed to execute processing for~~  
~~arranging the pages on the basis of at least one of the information indicating the number of~~  
~~division and output sheet information entered via the setting screen of the printer driver in said~~  
~~entry step, in a case where a print request occurs for the designation of N page printing; and~~  
a generating step of generating the print data using an arranging result in  
~~executing the determined one of said physical N page printing arranging step and said printable~~  
~~region N page printing arranging steps.~~

27. (Currently amended) A printing control program according to Claim 26,  
further comprising a condition acquiring step of acquiring a physical N-page printing condition,  
wherein said deciding ~~determining~~ step decides ~~determines~~, based on the physical N-page  
printing condition acquired in said condition acquiring step, whether said first controlling step is  
to be executed ~~which one of said physical N page printing arranging step and said printable~~  
~~region N page printing arranging step is employed to execute processing for arranging the pages.~~

28. (Original) A printing control program according to Claim 27, wherein said  
physical N-page printing condition is information indicating which one of plural types of N-page  
printing is set to physical N-page printing.

29. (Original) A printing control program according to Claim 27, wherein said physical N-page printing condition is information indicating that physical N-page printing is set when a predetermined output sheet size is designated.

30. (Original) An information processing program according to Claim 27, wherein said condition acquiring step acquires said physical N-page printing condition from an external device.

31. (Canceled)

32. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium product storing a printing control program executed in a printing control device for having a printer driver which generates print data to be printed at a printing apparatus using ~~a plurality of pages of drawing data~~ data output input from an application, the printing control program including the steps of:

an entry step of entering ~~at least one of~~ information indicating the number of division via a setting screen to divide a physical page ~~an output sheet and output sheet~~ information about an output sheet to be used for printing ~~via a setting screen of a printer driver~~, in executing N-page printing in which drawing data of N pages ( $N > 1$ , N is an integer) is printed on the physical page which is a face of one print sheet;

~~an a physical N-page printing~~ arranging step of dividing the ~~the~~ [[a]] physical page into N areas using the information indicating the number of division to divide the physical page and of arranging the drawing data of each page ~~at a center of each of equal~~ N-divided areas of the



physical page, wherein, if a physical sheet of the physical page is cut into N pieces of sheet, the print result of each page is arranged at the center of one piece of cut sheet;

a first control step of controlling an arranging processing executed in said arranging step so that an internal margin between two of a plurality of drawing data arranged in said arranging step is larger than a print margin between the drawing data and an edge of the physical page;

~~a printable area N page printing arranging step of dividing a printable area, which is obtained by subtracting a print margin from the physical page, into N printable areas and arranging the drawing data of each page in each of equal N divided printable areas of the printable area on the physical page, wherein the print results of the drawing data of each page in printing N pages are arranged toward the center of the physical sheet;~~

a deciding determining step of deciding whether said first control step is executed based on determining which one of said physical N page printing arranging step and said printable region N page printing arranging step is employed to execute processing for arranging the pages on the basis of the output sheet information indicating the number of division entered via the setting screen by said entry means; in a case where a print request occurs for the designation of N page printing; and

a generating step of generating the print data using an arranging result in by  
~~executing the determined one of said physical N page printing arranging step and said printable region N page printing arranging step.~~

33. (Previously presented) An information processing apparatus according to Claim 6, wherein said determining means determines which one of said physical N-page printing arranging means and said printable region N-page printing arranging means is employed to execute processing for arranging the pages on the basis of one of the information indicating the number of division, an output sheet size and an output sheet entered by said entry means.

34. (Previously presented) A printing control method according to Claim 16, wherein said determining step determines which one of said physical N-page printing arranging step and said printable region N-page printing arranging step is employed to execute processing for arranging the pages on the basis of one of the information indicating the number of division, an output sheet size and an output sheet entered in said entry step.

35. (Previously presented) A printing control program according to Claim 32, wherein said determining step determines which one of said physical N-page printing arranging step and said printable region N-page printing arranging step is employed to execute processing for arranging the pages on the basis of one of the information indicating the number of division, an output sheet size and an output sheet entered in said entry step.

36. (New) An information processing apparatus according to Claim 6, further comprising second controlling means for controlling the arranging processing of the drawing data by said arranging means so that the internal margin between two of the plurality of drawing data arranged by said arranging means is not left, wherein said deciding means decides to execute said

second controlling means when said deciding means decides that said first controlling means is not to be executed.

37. (New) A printing control method according to Claim 16, further comprising a second controlling step of controlling the arranging processing of the drawing data in said arranging step so that the internal margin between two of the plurality of drawing data arranged in said arranging step is not left, wherein it is decided in said deciding step to execute said second controlling step when it is decided in said deciding step that said first controlling step is not to be executed.

38. (New) A program according to Claim 26, further comprising a second controlling step of controlling the arranging processing of the drawing data in said arranging step so that the internal margin between two of the plurality of drawing data arranged in said arranging step is not left, wherein it is decided in said deciding step to execute said second controlling step when it is decided in said deciding step that said first controlling step is not to be executed.